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January 13, 2006

**FELON SENTENCED TO 90 MONTHS IN FEDERAL  
PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING A FIREARM**

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ANDREW L. TRAVER, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; PAUL LOGLI, Winnebago County State's Attorney; and DOMINIC IASPARRO, Acting Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **WILLIAM LUVENE**, 33 (DOB: 03/19/1972), formerly of 6608 S. Honore Street, Chicago, Illinois, to 90 months in federal prison without parole for being a felon in possession of a firearm. In addition, the court ordered Luvene to serve three years of supervised release following his release from prison, and to pay a \$200.00 fine.

Luvane pled guilty to the federal charge on October 12, 2005. In his plea agreement, Luvene admitted that on May 2, 2005, as a convicted felon, he possessed a Bryco Arms .22 caliber pistol that had traveled across state lines prior to his possession of it. Police officers discovered Luvene's possession of the pistol during the execution of a search warrant at an apartment in Rockford.

First charged by the Winnebago County States Attorney's Office under state law, Luvene was transferred to federal court where he was charged under tough federal firearms laws as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods program. Project Safe Neighborhoods is an intensive, cooperative effort between local, state, and federal law enforcement to attack gun crimes. The cornerstone of the program is that every defendant charged in state court for an offense involving a gun will be reviewed for possible federal prosecution in order to obtain the harshest penalties for the worst offenders. Additional information about Project Safe Neighborhoods may be found at [www.psn.gov](http://www.psn.gov).

The case was investigated by the Rockford Office of the ATF and the Rockford Metro Narcotics Unit. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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